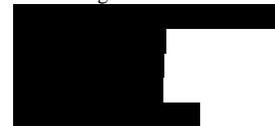




Bronx Neighborhood Office  
Tenant Rights Coalition



October 14, 2016

Supportive Services for Veteran Families

Re: Letter in support of rental arrears application for



Blaine (Fin) V. Fogg  
*President*

Seymour W. James, Jr.  
*Attorney-in-Chief*

Adriene L. Holder  
*Attorney-in-Charge*  
Civil Practice

Marshall Green  
*Attorney-in-Charge*  
Bronx Neighborhood Office

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of our client, [REDACTED], in his application for assistance with his rent arrears in the amount of \$1,868.02 through July 2016. The Legal Aid Society is representing [REDACTED] in a non-payment proceeding currently pending in Bronx Housing Court (Index No. [REDACTED]). [REDACTED] is a disabled veteran and lives with his fiancé in an apartment that is affordable to them.

Per Stipulation of Settlement dated May 18, 2016, [REDACTED] owes a total of \$1,678.52 through May 31, 2016, in addition to June and July rent, which comes to \$2,272.52. [REDACTED] is an HPD Section 8 recipient, and his portion of the rent is currently \$297. He paid his June rent portion in full. Additionally, his fiancé began receiving Public Assistance shelter benefits as of July 13, so the total arrears do not credit the July B shelter payment in the amount of \$107.50. Therefore, [REDACTED] only owes a total of **\$1,868.02** through July 2016. He receives Social Security Disability benefits in the amount of \$1,033 per month and \$27 in food stamps. His fiancé receives \$183 per month in Public Assistance cash benefits.

The accrual of [REDACTED] arrears are reasonable based on the following circumstances. As the sole provider for the household, it became difficult to support himself and his fiancé solely on his disability income. At the time, his Section 8 portion was higher because his medical costs had not been considered. However, his portion was readjusted, and as of July 13, 2016, his fiancé began receiving Public Assistance shelter benefits in the amount of \$215 per month. This will greatly lessen the financial burden of paying the ongoing rent. Additionally, during that time when the arrears accrued [REDACTED] was suffering from untreated depression, which made it difficult for him to manage his finances. He is not receiving effective treatment for his depression and with the new direct shelter payments from Public Assistance, he will have no problem paying the ongoing rent.

If your agency can assist [REDACTED] with his remaining balance of \$1,868.02 through July 2016, this will ensure the preservation of his affordable housing for this disabled veteran and his

fiancé. If you need any additional information to evaluate his case, please do not hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]